

Appl. No. 09/927,794
Amdt. Dated September 28, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 29, 2006

Attorney Docket No. 81784.0241
Customer No.: 26021

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 10-15 are pending in the Application. By this Amendment, claim 13 is being amended to improve its form. No new matter is involved.

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In this connection, it is stated that one cannot determine whether the claim is reciting channel areas that are geometrically in parallel (lying in the same direction as a current path), or whether a parallel electrical connection is intended. In response, Applicants are amending claim 13 to clarify this and thereby render the claim definite. More specifically, claim 13 is being amended so as to recite at the end thereof "wherein the channel areas are electrically connected in parallel with respect to a current path". Such arrangement is shown in Fig. 8 and described in the portion of the specification pertaining to such Figure.

As so amended, claim 13 clearly recites that a plurality of channel areas are arranged separately and in parallel to each other and also such channel areas are electrically connected in parallel with respect to a current path. Consequently, claim 13, and claims 14 and 15 which depend therefrom, should now be clear and definite.

Inasmuch as the rejection of claims 13-15 on formal grounds is the only rejection of these claims in the Office Action, such claims should now be allowable. The indication on page 2 of the Office Action that claims 10-12 are allowed has again been duly noted.

In conclusion, claims 10-15 should now be allowable for the reasons discussed above. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los

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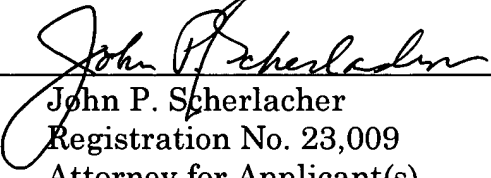
Angeles, California telephone number (310) 785-4764 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: September 28, 2006

By: _____


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